DECREASING GIRLS (0-6 Years): VIOLATION OF GIRLS RIGHTS

(A sociological study with reference to North-Western Rajasthan)

कम होती बालिकायें (0–6 वर्ष) : बालिकाओं के अधिकारों का उल्लंघन

(उत्तरी–पश्चिमी राजस्थान के संदर्भ में एक समाजशास्त्रीय अध्ययन)

Synopsis submitted in accordance with the provision of Regulation 2009 of UGC for the award of Ph.D. Degree of Maharshi Dayanand Saraswati University, Ajmer in the faculty of Social Sciences (Sociology)

By

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APPENDIX-IV

MAHARSHI DAYANAND SARASWATI UNIVERSITY, AJMER

Format for Outline of Proposed Research work
(to be supplied in six copies)

1. **Name of Scholar (In English)** : SHIV KUMAR ACHARYA

   (In Hindi) शिव कुमार आचार्य

2. **Title of the Research Work (In English)** : **Decreasing Girls (0-6 years): Violation of Girls Rights (A sociological study with reference of North-Western Rajasthan)**

   (In Hindi) : कम होती बालिकायें (0–6 वर्ष) : बालिकाओं के अधिकारों का उल्लंघन (उत्तरी–पश्चिमी राजस्थान के संदर्भ में एक समाजशास्त्रीय अध्ययन)

3. **Location**
   a. **Institution/Department where the work is to be done.**
   सम्राट पृथ्वीराज चौहान राजकीय महाविद्यालय अजमेर / समाजशास्त्र विभाग
   b. **Geographical area of Investigation, if any.**
   उत्तरी–पश्चिमी राजस्थान के 4 जिले– बीकानेर, नागौर, जैसलमेर व जोधपुर

4. **Introducation Importance of Proposed Investigation, Objectives.** (Page 02 to 16)

5. **Reviews (Work already done on the subject of proposed Research Study.)** (Page 10 to 15)

6. **Research Gaps identified in the proposed field of investigation.** (Page 15 to 16) **(Based on the reviews)**

7. **Major Hypothesis, If any.** (Page 09 to 10)

8. **Research Methodology.** (Page 16 to 18)

9. **List of references cited.** (Page 20 to 21)

Signature of the Candidate with date

14.09.16

Outline Approved.

14.09.2016

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SYNOPSIS

Women Rights are essential tools to achieve the goal of women empowerment. Women Rights ensure lives of women to be lived with dignity and safety. Women rights are the initial steps towards empowerment. There is a requirement of related laws, legislations and social acceptance towards equality and rights to women. Violation of women rights are caused by the thoughts of inequality, based on gender. If we see in the society we will find that women have subordinated status in the society. It is because of men-centric mentality of the society. Women have their different roles than men which are derived from a long tradition and practiced culture. In traditional practices, women's roles are to perform at household & activities like cooking, washing, taking care of the family members including old aged and children. Hence, it seems that it allows men to go outside and perform economic activities. At the same time it is discrimination to women not to go outside, and make easy to men without tension of the family and taking care of all household activities. This is all without any kind of recognition and payment to women. After all the work done early in the morning to late nights – women is called that they 'do nothing' or they are just housewives. And it contributes in making women's subordinated status. Gender equality is a basic requirement to ensure women & girls rights. Thoughts derived with gender-bias are needed to be changed to ensure equalities and dignity.

To ensure women empowerment it is required some systemic support in terms of law and legislations. Along with this, social acceptance towards these laws plays a vital role in achieving women empowerment in a rightful manner. This is an interrelated context that facilitates women empowerment through women rights. In other words, we can also say that women rights are the base for women empowerment. It would be much significant to conduct a research study on women

right agendas like "Right to be born" and "Right to be survived". It can be helpful to facilitate further process of programming mentality change, positively. It is required to have documentary evidence and minute details before work on the mentality change in the society through the government and non-Government agencies. As it is a very crucial point, India is facing a rapid decline in the number of girls (CSR, 0-6 years) it caused for a number of social problems. Rajasthan is also showing the trends of declining CSR (0-6 years) interestingly more because it makes cover stories of news papers and media through some incidences of female infanticide. The issue is challenging to work on the mentality part of the society, yet not impossible if we have the details based on research.

STATEMENT OF RESEARCH PROBLEM

Largely, if we can see minutely there are discriminations at every step women face before her birth even and it goes on till the death. Parents want a son instead of a daughter due to various traditional and concurrent reasons. For that parents do not hesitate even to opt sex selective abortion, in many cases. The reasons may be varied like family pressure, son preference, economic reasons, expensive marriages and related responsibilities given by the society, dowry, safety issues for girls, stereotype norms of the society that can be perform by only boys/men and easy access to the technology etc. And many a times, it is heard that girls are killed after their birth even. It is with specific references of *Jaisalmer-Barmer* incidents. One statement given by a *Sarpanch* would be helpful to share– 'People kill girls overnight by poisoning them with opium, crushing them with stone, and starving them'. In this relation, the first ever FIR lodged in *Jaisalmer* District in April 2011 against *Devda* village's *Indar Singh* for killing his granddaughter, a stark irony as he was the first man to save a girl in his village, his daughter. [1]

Here the issue is not only of female feticide and infanticide; the issue is more than of cruel mentality of the society deep rooted that is responsible for devalues of girls and women. Even if girls survive by any mean, they have to face a series of issues that is also violating their rights at every stage of life. Some of those are:

[1] News covered by India Today in June 20, 2011; and statement by *Sh. Hanuman Singh, Sarpanch of Chaiyan* Village in *Jaisalmer*

biased affection and care among children, poor health & nutritional status, limited opportunities of education and employment, less opportunities or no opportunity to choose life partner, no participation in decision making at family, physical violence & sexual harassment, and thus subordinated status throughout their life. To explore the reasons from social- cultural and economic perspective this research study will be helpful. It would be also helpful to find the gaps towards strengthening the policies and programmes to improve CSR (0-6 years) and largely the status of women in the society.

SEX DETERMINATION TESTS AND FEMALE FETICIDE

The most commonly used sex determination test is amniocentesis. It was used to test abnormality in the unborn fetus. But over the years, it has been used to determine the sex of the fetus. In India, it is used since 1978 as a sex selection test. The sex of fetus can be determined by more sophisticated machines within 13-14 weeks of pregnancy by sonography; and by 14- 16 weeks through ultrasound. These methods have rendered sex determination cheap and easy. And in such an era of technology the misuse of technology have been increased as it has been used in female feticide rather than its original use to test any kind of abnormality in the fetus.

SOME MAJOR LAWS AND LEGISLATION PREVENTING WOMEN RIGHTS

Constitution of India provides each and every person of this country – Right to Life, Freedom of expression, Freedom of livelihood anywhere in India, Freedom of religion etc. There are some key laws and legislations that promote women equality and life with dignity in our nation. Violence against women Act, Dowry Act, Sati Prevention Act, PC&PNDT Act and others are key laws in this direction.

PC&PNDT Act, 1994

The Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostic Techniques (Prohibition of Sex Selection) Act not only prohibits determination and disclosure of the sex of the fetus

for non-medical reasons but also bans advertisements related to pre-conception and pre-natal determination of sex. The act has made it mandatory for all ultrasound clinics and other diagnostic facilities capable of sex selection, to prominently display a signboard indicating that disclosure of the sex of the fetus is illegal. Further all such facilities have to be registered with the appropriate authority of the District. The manufacturers also required to provide information to the government about the sale of ultrasound machines and other similar equipment. It also have provisions for suspend from the medical practice and membership of Medical Councils along with penalties and imprisonment to the family members - who build pressure for sex selection, willing mothers, agents, medical practitioner, doctors, staff, place owner/s etc.

MISSING GIRLS: DECLINING NUMBERS OF GIRL CHILD

Missing Girls is a major concern to ensure women rights – as if Girls are not safe in the womb, and are missing from the wombs, how it can be ensured them safe outer in this rapidly changing world? Generally, girls are not being preferred by the families and they go for sex selection with help of technology like ultrasound and sonography in wanting of a son. Due to this, numbers of girls (0-6 Years) are decreasing rapidly and continuously.[2]

It has long been observed that as a natural phenomenon, more boys are born than girls. As a result, the normal sex ratio at Birth (SRB), calculated as the number of girls born for every 1000 boys born, is usually in the range of 943-962. Over time, with higher male mortality, this imbalance is expected to even out for higher age groups. However early discrimination behavior such as gender biased sex selection or neglect of girls after birth artificially skew Sex Ratio at Birth (SRB) as well as Child Sex Ratio (CSR), measured as the number of girls per 1000 boys in the age group of 0-6 years, in favour of boys. Given this context, the CSR remains much below the normal or desirable range of 950 or more girls per 1000 boys.

The CSR in India has declined from 927 girls per 1000 boys in 2001 to 918 according to census 2011. Wide variations are seen in ratios across different regions

[2] Census 1951 to 2011

of the country. Overall, the CSR remains adverse in 21 States and Union territories, the fall ranging from 3 to 79 points. On the other hand, 11 states and Union territories have registered an increase in CSR during the last decade. Changes in CSR at District level are more pronounced. Of the total 640 districts in the country, 429 districts have experienced decline in CSR. Of this, 26 districts recorded drastic decline (of 50 points or more), and 52 districts reported sharp decline (of 30-49 points). An overwhelming number of districts also experienced moderate (of 10- 29 points) decline in CSR. Census 2011 also points to the spread of this phenomenon from largely urban and prosperous areas to rural, remote and tribal pockets of the country.

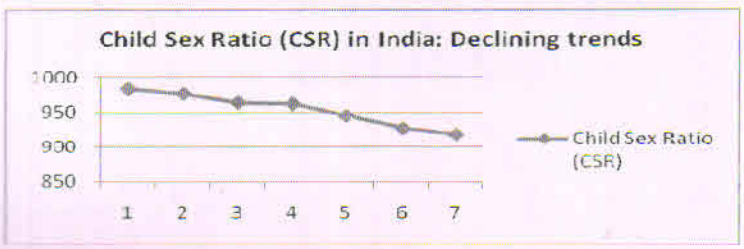
SOME TRENDS AND PRACTICES

Some key trends and patterns can be traced out by visiting rural and urban households on the occasion of the birth of a new born child. In Rural Rajasthan, there can be seen celebration and happiness on the birth of a boy with a warm welcome of the new comer with playing plates (Thali Bajana); while at the birth of a girl it can be seen the environment of a deep-sorrow like any death, without any welcome pattern. That shows gender-bias mentality of the people and of the society full of inequality before and after birth, and throughout the life cycle. In context of India and Rajasthan a rapid decline can be seen over the time of period:

Figure 1: Declining Child Sex Ratio (0-6 Years), India

Census years	Child Sex Ratio (CSR)	Declining
1951 (1)	983	
1961 (2)	976	--7
1971 (3)	964	--12
1981 (4)	962	--2
1991 (5)	945	--17
2001 (6)	927	--18
2011 (7)	918	--9

As we can see in the Figure1 and trends map, that it is declining continuously since 1951 to



2011. At the same time, the CSR in **Rajasthan** has been also declined consistently from 916 Girls over 1000 boys in 1991 to 909 in 2001; and further **888 in 2011**. The decline in CSR in rural areas was significantly higher than in urban areas, though both Rural and Urban areas recorded CSR below 900.

S. No.	District	CSR (0-6 Years) 2001	CSR (0-6 Years) 2011	Declining points
1	Ganganagar	850	854	+ 4
2	Hanumangarh	872	878	+ 6
3	Bikaner	920	908	-12
4	Churu	906	902	- 4
5	Jhunjhunu	863	837	-26
6	Sikar	885	848	-37
7	Jaisalmer	869	874	+5
8	Jodhpur	920	891	-29
9	Barmer	919	904	-15
10	Jalor	921	895	-26
11	Pali	925	899	-26
12	Ajmer	922	901	-21
13	Nagaur	915	897	-18
14	Bhilwara	949	928	-21
15	Tonk	927	892	-35
16	Udaipur	947	924	-23
17	Banswara	962	934	-28
18	Dungarpur	955	922	-33
19	Chittaurgarh	926	912	-14
20	Rajsamand	936	903	-33
21	Sirohi	918	897	-21
22	Pratapgarh	953	933	-20
23	Jaipur	899	861	-38
24	Alwar	887	865	-22
25	Dausa	906	865	-41
26	Bharatpur	879	869	-10
27	Dhaulpur	860	857	-3
28	Karauli	873	852	-21
29	Sawai Madhopur	902	871	-31
30	Kota	912	899	-13
31	Bundi	912	894	-18

32	Jhalawar	934	912	-22
33	Baran	919	912	-7

In relation to above mentioned tabulated data it can be seen that it is the state wide decline. The degree of decline is also a cause for concern with districts like Dausa, Tonk, Jaipur and Sikar by 35 points or more. The problem seems to have worsened in Sikar and Jhunjhunu with these becoming the hotspots in the state. As compared to 2001, additional districts have dipped below 900 such as Nagaur, Jodhpur, Pali, Jalor and Sirohi.

In 2001, only ten districts out of a total of 33 registered a CSR below 900. In 2011, this number doubled to 20, demonstrating diffusion and spread across the state.

The highest declining points in CSR from 2001 to 2011 among the districts of Rajasthan, there are *Dausa* (-41 points), *Sikar* (-37 points), and *Tonk* (-35 points). At the same times some positive trends of increasing points in CSR from 2001 to 2011 can be seen in *Hanumangarh* (+6 points), *Jaisalmer* (+5 Points) and *Ganganagar* (+4 points).

In north - western rajasthan, there can be seen decline in CSR (0-6 years), as of Bikaner (-12), Jaisalmer (+5), Jodhpur (-29), and Nagaur (-18). In the areas of north-western Rajasthan some specific incidents of female infanticide have been come up in light, specifically from Jaisalmer.

CAUSE AND EFFECTS

Gender biased sex selection is a discriminatory practice that is a result of a complex web of factors: deep-seated patriarchal mindsets that lead families to value sons over daughters, the need for small families, but with sons, and commercialization and misuse of medical technology that enables illegal sex selection. Some other factors behind the scene are dowry in practice, burden of the marriage expenses, safety issues in outer world and at in-laws families, and feeling of "*Paraya Dhan*" and many more that are inter-related.

Sex selection creates imbalances among population. It is also responsible for serious socio-demographic consequences, further reinforcing the subordination of girls and women. The issue therefore requires a multi-faceted response to enhance the value of girls, as well as legal measures to curb misuse of medical technology. As an effect, there would be increased the number of cases of crime against women, rapes, trafficking, polyandry (one women married more than one husband, at a time), buying and selling of Girls and many inter-related issues. Many of the people have to be without any family as declining the number of Girls.[3]

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

Objectives of the research studies are as followings:-

1. To Identify the Cause and Effects of declining number of girls (Child Sex Ratio) (0-6 Years).
2. To understand various related trends among the communities of north-western Rajasthan.
3. To understand the role performed by the PCPNDT Cell and other related departments and agencies in these 4 districts of north-western Rajasthan.
4. To find out the gap between need and Implementation of the programmes.
5. To find the appropriate solution of the Issue identified.

HYPOTHESIS

1. One of the key reasons of declining number of girls (0-6 years) is son preference at birth given by the families.

[3] Notes from Gender Convergence Officer's diary on his discussion with community on declining CSR in Merta Road *Gram panchayat* of *Nagaur* District in *Rajasthan*, 2013 (the Case of *Sewak* Community in the *Gram Panchayat*, where one or two male person in each generation have to be unmarried, life-long due to non-availability of girls; And among *Jat* Community of the areas, there are number of cases where they have purchased girls for marriages from poorer areas of *Maharastra*)

2. It can be seen as a visible impact of declining CSR (0-6 years) in coming time as many of the male people have to be lived single lifelong.
3. Another major impact can be seen in increasing incidents of crime against women like rapes, forced marriages etc.
4. There can be seen some specific trends of declining CSR like community and caste specific incidents in north-western Rajasthan.
5. PCPNDT Cells are functional in all the districts, but their functioning may need to be strengthened towards strict implementation of the law.
6. There may also need to strengthen convergence among various schemes and departments that are working on the same direction "to save the girl child"
7. Suggestions of people can be helpful us in finding the solutions of the issue.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Related literatures have been reviewed on the issue of the research. Although there are very few research studies found that are focused on the issue identified, yet some of the study were related to the topic that are as followings:-

Details of reviewed Research study/ Paper/ Chapter/Report	
1.	**"Mortality, Fertility and Gender Bias in India: a district level analysis", by Mamta Mutrthy, Anne Catherine Guio, Jean Dreze (Book: Indian Development: Selected regional perspectives, Page 357 to 406) (1997)**
Methodology	Quantitative (Primary data of 296 districts)
Key Findings	1. It identifies women education and awareness as a key factor responsible for Child mortality that include girl child. 2. Another aspect highlighted in the study is gender inequality that leads to child mortality.
Limitation, if	This is a cross-section study that does not focus much on declining CSR

any	and number of girls much.
2.	**Female Infanticide and the position of women in India" by L.S. Vishwanath (Book- Social Structure and Change, Volume 2 – Women in Indian Society, Page 179 to 205) (1996)**
Methodology	Qualitative, historical review
Key Findings	1. Dowry, especially the demand for high dowry may make parents feel that marriage of daughters is a financial burden. 2. Actual killing and deliberate neglect of female infants was caste specific and related to a complex set of factors – ideology of the caste, its cultural traits and the milieu in which caste lived.
Limitation, if any	This is focused on Gujarat incidents mainly while it claims north Indian state in British period. It also seems that there was a lot of evidence from Gujarat state as per documents was accessed more by the researcher, except for a few of other state incidents.
3.	**"Female Infanticide and female foeticide"** **(Book: Women and Crime, by S.K.Ghosh) (1993)**
Methodology	Qualitative
Key Findings	Female infanticide in history and Female foeticide were practiced due to poverty, economic liabilities for marriage of girls, dowry and social status of any community specific.
Limitation, if any	It describe well about infanticide incidents; while it describe very few about foeticide.
4.	**"Gender Scripts in Indian Villages" by Dr. Sunita Balani (Book- Changing Rural India, by Babita Bhardwaj) (2010)**
Methodology	Qualitative
Key Findings	1. Women most likely to practice sex selective abortion were

	those who already had one or two girl children. 2. Education of women in this instance appears not to have worked for women, but rather contributed to the use of medical technology to do actual harm to the status of women in Indian society.
Limitation, if any	This is based on secondary data and not focused on declining child sex ratio.
5.	**"The struggle for survival of the girl child"** **(Book: Girl Child in India, by Leelamma Devasia, and V.V. Devasia, Page 1 to 24) (1991)**
Methodology	Quantitative
Key Findings	1. Every year, 12 million girls are born in India. 1.5 million die before their first birthday, another 8,50,000 before their fifth and only 9 million will be alive at 15. Girl Child mortality is high in rural areas compare to urban. 2. The reasons for higher rate of infant mortality among rural girls are: Gender Bias, Absence of effective immunization of pregnant women and babies, absence of growth monitoring system, poor primary health care, lack of safe drinking water, and lack of proper health and nutrition education.
Limitation, if any	Could not find
6.	**"Misuse of technology as an instrument of gender violence: Looking into female feticide" by P. Lohar** **(Book: Social Security for women, by – Sistla Rama Devi Pani) (2014)**
Methodology	Qualitative
Key Findings	Due to shortage of female sex, there will be a sharp increase in the

	instances of rape, molestations, trafficking and growth of homosexuality in the society. Polyandry will become the order of the day and we will surely have plenty of modern day *draupadis*. Prostitution might become a legally accepted profession. It also mentions that it is not much difficult to undertake sex determination and sex selective abortions, that need to ensure effective implementation of PCPNDT Act.
Limitation, if any	This paper does not show much scientific data and facts, except a comparison of census 1991, 2001 and 2011 as its base data.
7.	"Women" (chapter -13, Book: Rajasthan Development Report, by Planning Commission, GoI, Page 257 to 272) (2006)
Methodology	Quantitative
Key Findings	1. Gender equality is a distance dream for Rajasthani women. They leg behind men in various health and educational indicators. This situation exists despite half a century of planned development in the state. 2. If a female child is born, there is always the fear of infanticide. During childhood and adolescence, they are vulnerable to sexual abuse, sometimes from close relatives and friends. 3. It also suggests annual social audits of maternal, infant and child deaths should be done by the gram panchayats. It also highlights the need for awareness generation as a pre-requisite for the process of gender empowerment. This need not wait till women get educated and there should be programmes for illiterate and semi-literate women as well.
Limitation, if any	Could not find

8.	**"Unsafe abortions and maternal mortality in India" by Dr. Abha Sharma** **(Journal of Development Management, ISSN 2321-0761, Vol-1, No.3, July-September 2013) (Page 341 to 347)**
Methodology	Quantitative
Key Findings	Deep rooted socio-cultural factors for son preference, easy availability of ultrasound technology is considered to be one of the prominent causes of skewed sex ratio in india.
Limitation, if any	This paper advocates for effective implementation of MTP act that legalize the abortion in special cases. Hence it is not much focus on declining CSR issue.
9.	**Beti Bachao Beti Padhao, Journey so far (One year document report), April 2016, MoWCD, GoI**
Methodology	Qualitative
Key Findings	In introduction of this showcasing innovations and best practices in different states under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao scheme in last one year, It is mentioned that the decline in CSR since 1961 to 2011 is a matter of grave concern as it reflects the low status of women in our society and indicates her disempowerment.
Limitation, if any	could not find
10.	**Indian Women in Development Perspective, (Book – Issues in women's development, by Anjali Kurane, page 1-24) (2012)**
Methodology	Qualitative and quantitative, both
Key Findings	India being a patriarchal society the birth of a male child is proffered. It also points out that a woman's position as a mother of son gives her authority in the household. It is also mentioned about another researcher Vatsala Mehta (1956) that she wrote that the birth of a

	female child was unwelcome during ancient days. Key responses on expectation for a boy, are: 1. Sons are necessary to carry the family name forward. 2. Sons are ritually and economically desirable and support parents in old age. 3. Son is needed to perform the last rites of parents and release their souls. 4. Status in the society. 5. Girl child is a liability; a lot has to be spent on her marriage along with a huge dowry. 6. Parents cannot be economically dependent on their daughters as per the society rules and religious norms. 7. Due to fear of in-laws and husband most of the time they prefer a son.
Limitation, if any	Could not find

RESEARCH GAP AND IMPORTANCE OF THE PROPOSED STUDY

There is a huge gap of Research in the issue especially in north-western Rajasthan contexts. There is almost no research study found that is focused on the issue in the north-western Rajasthan, except of statically data being generated by monthly report from CMHO Offices. Related Socio-Cultural Issues are needed to be identified and strong needs to work on these, in a constructive way. It is important ESPECIALLY when we talk about women empowerment and thoughts of equality. If, Girls have no right to be born and survive even, all the women empowerment processes seem unreal. It would be helpful to explore some more related DATA THAT can be helpful as ground based evidence for policy change or policy development further that contributes to the societal development and sociology of change.

This study would be helpful to contribute in the building of knowledge. It would be also helpful to understand and document unexplored issues of the society, like gender. This study would bring out some key causes of declining number of girls (0-6 years) along with some solutions of the issue. This would be come up through people participation and suggestions received during the study. It would be a well documented study that can be referred further in similar social studies. It would bring some more questions to be explored in future that would create more demand to do research. Such kind of demand based research would be more helpful in the societal development and in sociology of change.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The relevant data for this research study would be collected both from primary and secondary sources. An appropriate combination of qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection would be used. This combination is purposive as it gives a holistic insight to the research problem and adds in-depth account of the attitudes, opinions, behavior of a community or a group that is being studied.

Qualitative and quantitative data would be collected through structured interview schedule. At the same time unstructured interview would be employed Focused Group Discussions (FGDs). The Case study, oral history and participatory observation also would be employed for intensive investigation and to understand complex factors.

Hence, the research would be purposively based on qualitative methodology along with appropriate combination of quantitative data.

SAMPLE SURVEY

North-Western Rajasthan - land of desert community and a diverse set of socio-cultural practices that bound women at many stages women live thought-out their

life-cycle. *Ghunghat Pratha* is a clear example of the same. Restricted opportunities for education, employment, marriage etc are some other parameters can be seen by a gender lance. Some research studies that have sound financial backup can choose census survey as a methodological part of their study, while some choose sample survey. It is all based on the resources, time and appropriate methodology fit to the research subject. As each research have its own limitation, it has to be fixed with taking some sample out of its universe looking at time restrictions, financial and human resources. For proposed research study, 4 districts are selected based on geographic similarity, similar challenges for the people reside in the area like water crisis and similar cultural practices. Going with more specific to the purpose of this study there would be selected certain localities as given below –

1. Bikaner (35 GPs would be selected out of 290 GPs + 1 urban locality)
2. Jaisalmer (35 GPs would be selected out of 140 GPs+ 1 urban locality)
3. Jodhpur (35 GPs would be selected out of 466 GPs+ 1 urban locality)
4. Nagaur (35 GPs would be selected out of 467 GPs+ 1 urban locality)

Out of this universe of a total Gram Panchayats of 1363 in the selected four districts, Research areas would be 35 Gram Panchayats with worst Child Sex Ratio (CSR) Areas in each selected districts. Hence, these would be a total of 140 Gram Panchayats of above mentioned 4 districts from North-Western Rajasthan. Along with this rural setting, there would be selected one urban area from each district to see the trends in urban areas as well. Thus research areas would be 140 Gram Panchayats and 4 urban areas/towns among selected 4 districts.

TOOLS FOR DATA COLLECTION

For the purpose of this research, there can be developed a set of tools and techniques to gather the data. Some of the key Tools are followings:

1. Interview
   1.1 Interview schedules (for State -2, District Officials-8)

1.2 Interview schedule for NGO representatives/expert – 4-5

1.3 Interview of PRI Representatives/ Key community members - 84

2. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) – Women (36) and Men (4)(Separately) – total 40
3. Oral history – By Traditional Birth Attainder (TBA) (*Dai*) -2-3
4. Case Study -5
5. Observations recordings
6. Data Analysis

STATICAL TECHNIQUES

There would be used statical techniques as and when required during research in selection of the worst CSR Gram Panchayats (GPs), Data analysis etc. SPSS or STATA can be useful to analyze the quantitative data; While Data management, Case study, timely recording the conversation, observation between respondents and researcher would be helpful for qualitative data and data analysis.

TIME FRAME

- This research study would be completed in 2 Years (after registration of PhD). In case of some unexpected hurdles, it can be extended by 6 months more. Hence the research study would be completed within duration of 2.6 years, maximum.

CHAPTER SCHEME

1. **Issue related to decreasing girls – Some Concepts:** It would be described the details about the problem of declining number of girls (0-6 years), its contexts at international, national, regional and local.

2. **Research Methodology** – in the framework of qualitative methodology, there would be collected data from primary and secondary sources using various methods, tools & techniques, selection of the area.

3. **Role of PCPNDT Cell** – It would be understand the functions and working pattern of PCPNDT cell and other related agencies working in the districts.

4. **Cause & effect of declining number of girls –** It would be identified causes & effects of declining the number of girls (0-6 years) through various methods, tools and techniques.

5. **Need to be strengthen the programme/s related to the issue:** It would be identified the gap between need and implementation towards effective implementation of the related programmes/s.

6. **Conclusion & Suggestions -** As every study is assumed to come up with some findings and conclusions, it would be bring out through going all the steps of research study and analysis of collected data. It would also highlight some kind of solution to the problem identified, based on suggestions from respondents.

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Annexure – research tools

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